

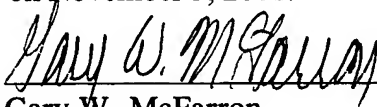
KAP 102 DIV

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Aaron V. Kaplan et al.)
For: Methods and Apparatus)
for Transpericardial Left)
Atrial Appendage Closure)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 5, 2001.


Gary W. McFarron
Reg. No. 27,357

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee for this divisional application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Before the first line, insert the following sentence - This application is a
divisional of co-pending application Serial No. 09/315,601, filed on May 20, 1999. -

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-9 and 27-28.